

Remarks

In a Notice Of Non-Compliant Amendment mailed on 11/04/2005, Examiner stated that the, "amendment filed 8/25/05 does not contain correct status identifier or, more ever, list 52 claims. For example, claim 45-52 should be listed as new."

Applicants provide a timeline below to provide an explanation of various actions taken during the prosecution of the present patent application:

9/27/2001 – Non-provisional patent application filed with 49 original claims.

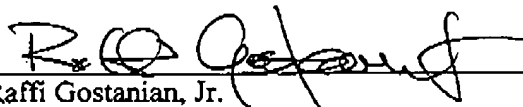
9/01/2004 – Preliminary Amendment mailed that amended a number of claims that were thought to be incomplete based on what was then thought to be an incomplete version of the non-provisional patent application per the contents of the physical patent file. It was assumed that only 41 claims had been filed when in fact, 49 claims had been filed. 3 new claims were also filed and were paid for and these new claims were denoted as claims 42-44.

8/22/2005 – Amendment mailed that included the originally filed 49 claims (including the previously presented amendment to claim 10) as well as the 3 new claims (now claims 50-52 that were referred to as being previously presented as they were previously presented in the 9/01/2004 preliminary amendment, albeit as new claims 42-44.

12/5/2005 – Amendment faxed that lists the status identifier as "new" for claims 50-52. The Examiner stated that claims 45-52 should be listed as new but this is not a correct assessment because on 9/27/2001 49 original claims were filed. The only new claims that have been added based on these original 49 claims are claims 50-52 as denoted herein.

If the Examiner has any other matters which pertain to this Application, the Examiner is encouraged to contact the undersigned to resolve these matters by Examiner's Amendment where possible.

Respectfully Submitted,


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